



DUQ-002RCE(DEP5290)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of: Kalfas, *et al.*

Application number: 10/815,883

Filed: March 31, 2004

For: *Spinal Rod Connector*

Attorney Docket No.: DUQ-002RCE (DEP5290)

Art Unit: 3733

Examiner: Annette R. Reimers

MS RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE FILED WITH REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION**

Dear Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

This Response is filed responsive to the Advisory Action mailed August 23, 2006, (Paper No. 20060818). In view of the comments set forth below, Applicant submits that the pending claims are patentable and in condition for allowance.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 2 of this paper

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 7 of this paper.